

**REMARKS**

By this amendment, claims 1-3, 5, and 7-9 have been amended, claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 10-12 have been added. The specification has been amended to correct certain informalities. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 7-12 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 8 are independent.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. Support for the amendments and added claims may be found at least in Figures 3 and 4 and at the corresponding description in the specification, including specifically at page 9, lines 15-23, and at page 10, lines 5-15 of the specification.

Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

***Amendments to the Drawings***

Attached hereto are replacement figure sheets for Figures 3 and 4, which include the amendments shown below without markings.

Figure 3 has been amended to correct the text in block 35, to EARPHONE-MICROPHONE SET CONTROL UNIT.

Figure 4 has been amended to correct:

1. the text in block 401, to DOES THE SWITCH END OF AN EARPHONE-MICROPHONE SET/STROBE CONNECTING CONNECTION UNIT HAVE AN OPEN STATUS?

2. the text in block 404, to DECIDE ON THE INDEITY IDENTITY OF A DEVICE PLUGGED IN, EITHER AN EARPHONE/MICROPHONE SET OR A STROBO, BASED ON THE LEAEL LEVEL INFORMATION

***Claim Objection***

In the Office Action, claim 9 was objected to because “strobe” on lines 2 and 3 should be “strobo.” Claim 9 has been amended for the sole purpose of correction, and not to avoid prior art or narrow the claimed invention, and no change in claim scope is intended by this amendment. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection for claim 9.

***Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102***

Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,819,942 issued to Aotake, *et al.* (“Aotake”).

In order for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to be proper, a single reference must disclose every claimed feature. To be patentable, a claim need only recite a single novel feature that is not disclosed in the cited reference. Thus, the failure of a cited reference to disclose one or more claimed features renders the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection improper.

Aotake fails to disclose every feature of claim 1 as amended. Claim 1 as amended recites in relevant part:

a connection unit ... to send level information according to whether the earphone/microphone set or the external device is connected to the mobile terminal, wherein the level information has a first voltage level if the earphone/microphone set is connected to the mobile terminal and a second voltage level if the external device is connected to the mobile terminal;

a sensor to determine whether the earphone/microphone set or the external device is electrically connected to the connection unit according to the voltage level of the level information ...;

Aotake fails to disclose at least these features. In Aotake, the plug-identifying circuit 28 "applies an identification signal to" the earphone jack 25 to determine whether the flash unit FU or the earphone unit EU is connected to the earphone jack 25. Aotake, col. 5, lines 19-22. However, the determination is made not according to a "voltage level" of the identification signal, but rather according to whether the identification signal "is returned." Aotake, col. 5, line 23. Specifically, if a plug is inserted into the earphone jack 25, the plug-identifying circuit 28 generates a plug-insertion signal. Aotake, col. 6, lines 48-50. If the identification signal is returned, the plug-identifying circuit 28 determines that the flash unit FU is connected. Aotake, col. 5, lines 22-24. If the earphone unit EU is connected, however, the signal generated by plug-identifying circuit 28 "is not returned." Aotake, col. 6, lines 48-54. Thus, according to Aotake, the determination of whether the flash unit FU or the earphone unit EU is connected to the earphone jack 25 is based upon whether the plug-insertion signal is returned, and not upon a voltage level of the signal.

For at least these reasons, Aotake fails to disclose every feature of claim 1 as amended.

Additionally, for at least these same reasons, Aotake fails to disclose every feature of claim 8, which has been amended substantially consistently with claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claims 1 and 8. The claims depending from these independent claims are allowable at least for their dependence. Since none of the other prior art of record discloses or suggests all the features of the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 8, and all the claims that depend therefrom, are allowable.

### ***Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103***

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Aotake. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over Aotake, and the

examiner's modification of Aotake fails to cure the above-identified deficiencies with respect to claim 1. Hence, claim 7 is allowable at least because it depends from an allowable base claim.

***Other Matters***

In addition to the amendments mentioned above, claims 1-3, 5, and 7-9 and various paragraphs of the specification have been amended solely for the purposes of informality correction, better wording and clarification. These other amendments are not made for the purpose of avoiding prior art or narrowing the claimed invention, and no change in claim scope is intended. Therefore, Applicants do not intend to relinquish any subject matter by these other amendments.

***Added Claims***

Added claims 10-12 are directed to additional features, which are not disclosed or suggested in the art of record. These claims are allowable at least for their dependence from allowable base claims.

**CONCLUSION**

A full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, all pending claims are allowable and the application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below if it would expedite prosecution. Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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